

Thakali language

Thakali is a Sino-Tibetan language of Nepal spoken by the Thakali people, mainly in the Myagdi and Mustang Districts. Its dialects have limited mutual intelligibility.

Seke (Tangbe, Tetang, Chuksang) is sometimes considered a separate language.^[1] Other names and dialect names are Barhagaule, Marpha, Panchgaunle, Puntan Thakali, Syang, Tamhang Thakali, Thaksaatsaye, Thaksatsae, Thaksya, Tukuche, Yhulkasom.^[6]

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Geographical distribution

Thakali is spoken in the middle of the Kali Gandaki River valley and in the upper part of the Kali Gandaki Gorge (also known as Thak Khola), in Mustang District, Dhawalagiri Zone. The Thakali area is bounded by Annapurna Himal on one side and Dhawalagiri Himal on the other, with Tatopani village in the south and Jomsom in the north (*Ethnologue*).

The Tukuche dialect is spoken from Tukuche to Thaksatsae, in 13 villages: Tukuche, Khanti, Kobang, Larjung, Dampu, Naurikot, Bhurjungkot, Nakung, Tithi, Kunjo, Taglung, Lete, Ghansa. Many live outside the area.

Seke is spoken in Chuksang, Tsaille, Tangbe, Tetang, and Gyakar villages of Mustang District, Dhawalagiri Zone. There are only 700 native speakers of this language, 100 of whom live in New York City. Reportedly, half of the New York City speakers live in the same apartment building.^{[7][8][9]}

Dialects

Ethnologue lists the following dialects of Thakali.

- Tukuche (Tamhang Thakali, Thaksaatsaye, Thaksatsae)
- Marpha (Puntan Thakali)
- Syang (Yhulkasom)

Thakali	
Native to	Nepal
Ethnicity	13,000 Thakali people (2001 census) ^[1]
Native speakers	5,900 (2002 – 2011 census) ^[1]
Language family	Sino-Tibetan <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Tamangic<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Thakali
Dialects	Thakali Tangbe Tetang Chuksang
Writing system	Devanagari (modern) ^[2] Tibetan script (historical) ^[3]
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	Either: ths – Thakali skj – Seke
Glottolog	thak1245 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/thak1245) Thakali ^[4] seke1240 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/seke1240) Seke ^[5]

Seke has the following dialects.

- Tangbe
- Tetang
- Chuksang

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External links

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